

Posting Title : Acoustic Specialist  
Department/ Office : Regional Service Centre at Entebbe  
Location : Uganda  
Posting Period : 17 October 2017 - 15 November 2017  
Job Opening number : 17-Regional Service Centre at Entebbe-86519-Consultant

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**United Nations Core Values: Integrity, Professionalism, Respect for Diversity**

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### **Duties And Responsibilities**

#### Scope of assignment

The four RTCC Conference Halls are separated by moveable partitions which, when fully open, result in one, large plenary/conference hall. The Acoustic Specialist will conduct acoustical and electro-acoustical tests, which include (but are not limited to) measurement of the reverberation time in the four Conference Halls and sound propagation within the space of the halls.

The Acoustic Specialist will inspect the material installed at RTCC, compare them with the original design of the building and, based on these activities and the results of the tests conducted, will propose solutions to improve the acoustic performance in the Conference Halls.

The core aspect of assignment will focus on identifying all the details for the Installation of a conference system / public address electro-acoustic system, which includes (but is not limited to) loudspeakers, microphones, amplifier, matching and control units, following the results of the tests conducted.

The duration of the assignment is 3 weeks in the fourth quarter of 2017. The first half of the consultancy will be spent on location, the second half (e.g., analysis of results, compilation of report, preparation of SOW, etc.) can be completed remotely, that is home-based.

#### Main Duties/Responsibilities

The main responsibilities of the Acoustic Specialist will include, but are not limited to the following tasks:

- Study, analyze and evaluate documents, designs and any background information related to the RTCC and the Conference Halls;
- Compare the materials installed with the materials included in the original design of the RTCC, and newly procured equipment; Identify any gaps in equipment requirements;
- Carry-out all necessary acoustic measurements with emphasis on measurement of reverberation time and sound propagation decay;

- All testing equipment and related materials are to be provided by the Acoustic Specialist;
- Suggest necessary architectural changes (if any) in the Conference Halls, taking into account the results of tests
- Design and specify the means to achieve required acoustic improvements and the performance of the electro-acoustic system support (if any);
- Evaluate how changes to the conference halls design and configuration would affect sound levels and quality, and incorporate these findings in the deliverables;
- Concluding the results in an overall report;
- Draft a Scope of Works (SOW) for the necessary improvements of the Conference Halls and for the installation of a conference system / public address electro-acoustic system to be installed at the RTCC, inclusive of "end-state" design of public address electro-acoustic system;
- Provide an estimated cost of works based on a detailed BoQ.

## **Work Location**

### **Organisational Setting**

The Regional Service Centre Entebbe (RSCE) is a shared service centre based in Entebbe, Uganda. Its strategic goal is to provide efficient, scalable and client-oriented services for United Nations field missions in East and Central Africa.

At the end of July 2016 the RSCE's Regional Training & Conference Centre (RTCC) in Entebbe was inaugurated. It serves as a training hub for UN Field Missions in the African Great Lakes region, hosting a wide variety of courses, conferences and meetings. RTCC actively supports the peacekeeping and peace building efforts of MONUSCO, UNAMID, UNMISS, UNISFA, UNSOA, MENUB and MINUSCA by offering an accessible and conducive learning environment to UN personnel (Civilian, Military, Police, and UNVs) serving in challenging and remote environments.

The Conference Halls at the RTCC are quite reverberant and as a result, they do not suit many kinds of events and meetings, such as the use for video conferences.

The RSCE through the Office of the Chief seeks to hire an Acoustic Specialist to carry out space acoustic tests, recommend remedial works (if needed) and design a conference audio system and draft a Scope of Work (SOW) for the four Nalubaale Conference Halls at the RTCC (henceforth referred to as "Conference Halls").

## **Expected Duration**

3 weeks

## **Result Of Service**

### **Deliverables**

- Conduct inspections, tests and analysis regarding the acoustic performance of the Conference Halls;
- Evaluate the acoustic performance of the Conference Halls, the original design and recommend improvements as per the above duties and responsibilities;

- Write a final report stating in detail the inspections methodology, results and recommendations;
- Provide a detailed draft Scope of Work for the necessary improvements and for the installation of a conference system / public address electro-acoustic system, including BoQ and an estimation of the costs.

### **Qualifications/Special Skills**

- Bachelor's degree in Engineering, Architecture, environmental science or related field, with a background in Acoustics-Noise Control and Acoustic Industry.

### **Additional Information**

Competencies

Core Values:

- Demonstrates integrity and fairness by modelling UN values and ethical standards;
- Demonstrates professional competence and is conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines and achieving results.

Functional competencies:

- Possessing the ability to work in partnership with a range of organizations in a managerial position and having a proven track record of delivering projects and their objectives within an agreed timescale;
- Excellent oral and written Communication skills;
- Excellent analytical skills;
- Ability to work independently and as part of a small team, to manage competing priorities and perform well under pressure;
- Creative and practical approach to solving problems;
- Ability to explain design plans clearly.

Skills and Experience

Education:

- Bachelor's degree in Engineering, Architecture, environmental science or related field, with a background in Acoustics-Noise Control and Acoustic Industry.

Experience:

Required

- At least seven years of relevant professional experience;
- Extensive experience in designing and conducting acoustic inspections for international development agencies and/or the private sector;
- Extensive experience in designing Conference System / PA System for international development agencies and/or the private sector;
- Extensive experience in the analysis, design and management of acoustics for a myriad of premises with varying requirements. In particular for conference halls, theatres and similar;
- Ability and professionalism to complete projects that combine different fields of expertise

and practicality;

- Three (3) references for similar services or work conducted within the last five (5) years.

Language:

- Fluency in spoken and written English is required.

Additional Information

- Applicants should submit a proposal (maximum 5 pages), including:
- A letter of interest
- A methodology and timeline for executing the deliverables,
- A CV detailing the relevant years of experience and qualifications
- Copies of educational and professional certificates
- Contact information for 3 professional referees.
- Details and proof of implementation of at least 3 similar type projects within the last 5 years.

### **United Nations Considerations**

The United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs. (Charter of the United Nations - Chapter 3, article 8). The United Nations Secretariat is a non-smoking environment.

As per UN policy, Consultants and Individual Contractors may not apply for or be appointed to any position in the Professional or above categories and for positions at the FS-6 and FS-7 levels in the Field Service category within six months of the end of their current or most recent service. This restriction does not apply to associate experts (Junior Professional Officers) appointed under the Staff Rules.

### **No Fee**

THE UNITED NATIONS DOES NOT CHARGE A FEE AT ANY STAGE OF THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS (APPLICATION, INTERVIEW MEETING, PROCESSING, OR TRAINING). THE UNITED NATIONS DOES NOT CONCERN ITSELF WITH INFORMATION ON APPLICANTS' BANK ACCOUNTS.